10.

THE Vow and Covenant, APPOINTED By the *LORDS* and *COMMONS* *assembled in Parliament.*

To be taken by every man, in the Cities of *London*, *Westminster*, the Suburbs, and Liberties thereof; and throughout the whole Kingdom.

TOGETHER

With Instructions, how, and in what manner the said Vow *and* Covenant *shall be taken.*

ORdered by the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, That this Oath and Covenant, with the Instructions, be forthwith Printed, and published to the whole Kingdom.

H. Elsynge Cler. Par. D. Com.

LONDON:
Printed for *Edward Husbands.* 29 *Junii*
MDCXLIII.

THE

Vow and Covenant,

APPOINTED

By the LORDS and COMMONS

assembled in Parliament.

To be taken by every man, in the Cities of London, Westminster, the Suburbs, and Liberties thereof; and throughout the whole Kingdom.

TOGETHER

With Directions, how, and in what manner the said Vow and Covenant shall be taken.

BRITISH MUSEUM

Ordered by the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, That this Oath and Covenant be printed, published, and dispersed throughout the whole Kingdom.

H. Elsynge Cler. Parl. D. Com.

LONDON:

Printed for Edward Husband, 29 Junii MDCXLIII.

The Vow and Covenant appointed by the Lords and Commons to be taken thorowout the whole Kingdom.

WHereas the Lords and Commons now assembled in Parliament have Declared, That there hath been, and now is a Popish and trayterous Plot for the subversion of the true Protestant Reformed Religion, and the Liberty of the Subject; And that in pursuance thereof, a Popish Army hath been raised, and now is on foot in divers parts of this Kingdom: And have further in a solemn manner Declared, Vowed, and Covenanted, That in order to the security and preservation of the true Protestant Religion, and Liberty of the Subject, they will not consent to the laying down of Arms, so long as the Papists now in open Warre against the Parliament shall by force of Arms be protected from the Justice thereof. And whereas the Lords and Commons have declared, That there hath been a treacherous and horrid Designe lately discovered by the great blessing, and especiall Providence of God, of divers persons to joyn themselves with the Armies raised by the KING, and to destroy the Forces raised by the Lords and Commons in Parliament, to surprise the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, with the Suburbs, and by Arms to force the Parliament: And the said Lords and Commons finding by constant experience, That many wayes of force and treachery are continually attempted, to bring to utter ruine and destruction the Parlirment and Kingdom, and that which is deareſt, The true Protestant Religion: And that for the preventing and withstanding the same, they have thought fit, That all who are true hearted and Lovers of their Countrey, should binde themselves each to other in a sacred Vow and Covenant, in manner and form as followeth, and accordingly.

I *A. B.*

I *A. B.* In humility and reverence of the Divine Majesty, declare my hearty sorrow for my own sins, and the sins of this Nation, which have deserved the calamities and judgements that now lie upon it; And my true intention is, by Gods grace, to endeavour the amendment of my own wayes; And that I do abhorre and detest the said wicked and treacherous designe lately discovered; And that I never gave, nor will give my assent to the execution thereof, but will, according to my power and vocation, oppose and resist the same, and all other of the like nature: And in case any other Designe shall hereafter come to my knowledg, I wil make such timely discovery as I shall conceive may best conduce to the preventing thereof. And whereas I do in my conscience believe, That the Forces raised by the two Houses of Parliament are raised and continued for their just defence, and for the defence of the true Protestant Religion, and Liberties of the Subject, against the Forces raised by the King: I do here, in the presence of Almighty God, Declare, Vow, and Covenant, That I will, according to my power and vocation, assist the Forces raised and continued by both Houses of Parliament, against the Forces raised by the King without their consent; And will likewise assist all other persons that shall take this Oath, in what they shall do in pursuance therof; And will not directly or indirectly adhere unto, nor shall willingly assist the Forces raised by the King without the consent of both Houses of Parliament. And this Vow and Covenant I make in the presence of Almighty God, the Searcher of all hearts, with a true intention to perform the same, as I shall answer at the great Day, when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed.

JUNII 27.

Instructions for the taking of the Vow and Covenant thorow the Kingdom.

1. THat all the Knights and Burgesses now in Parliament, do take speciall care speedily to send down into their severall Counties a competent number of the Copies of the Vow and Covenant unto the Deputy-Lievtenants, and Committees of Parliament in their severall Counties, and require a Certificate from them of the day when they were received, which they are to return unto the Clerk of the House of Commons, that so an accompt may be given of it as there shall be occasion.

2. That the said Deputie-Lievtenants and Committees do within six dayes at the utmost, disperse the said Copies unto every Parish Church or Chappel in their severall Counties, to be delivered unto the Ministers or Church-Wardens of the said severall Churches; which they shall send, together with a Precept under some one or more of their hands, commanding the severall Ministers and Church-Wardens to return a true Certificate within twenty dayes, of the names of those who shall not take it, unto such person within the said severall Counties, as shall by the said Deputie-Lieutenants and Committees, or some of them be appointed to receive the same.

3. That the Ministers of the severall Churches or Chappels shall give publike notice upon the first Lords day after their receipt of such Copies, &c. what day the said Vow and Covenant shall be taken

in their ſeverall Pariſhes, the time not to exceed the ſeventh day after ſuch notice.

4. That before the dayes ſo appointed, the Conſtables of every Town within the ſaid ſeverall Pariſhes, ſhall bring unto the Miniſters the Names fair written, of all men above the age of Fifteen, reſiding within their ſeverall Towns or Villages. And the Church-wardens of every Pariſh, ſhall before the ſaid day ſo appointed, provide a Regiſter Book In the beginning of which, ſhall be the Vow and Covenant fair written, wherein every man after he hath taken the ſaid Vow and Covenant, ſhall write his name or make his mark whereunto his name ſhall be written.

5. That this Vow and Covenant ſhall be taken by all men in the Church within the ſeverall Pariſhes where they do reſide, in the preſence of the Miniſters, Church-wardens, Side-men, and Conſtables of the ſaid Pariſh, or two of them at the leaſt, joyntly with the Miniſter, the parties ſtanding up, and either audibly pronouncing all the words of the ſame, or elſe ſome one having then ſolemnly read over the whole, and taken it in their ſight and hearing, they ſhall take the Covenant in their hand, ſaying; And I A.B. take this Vow and Covenant, &c. As it is in the laſt Clauſe of the Covenant, unto the end thereof.

6. That if any reſiding in the Pariſh do not come and take the ſaid Vow and Covenant, as aforeſaid, at the firſt day appointed for the ſame, then the Miniſter ſhall appoint another day for it ſpeedily after: And the Church-wardens, or ſome for them, are to go unto the houſes where they dwell, and give them perſonall notice, and if they be not at home, then to leave the

notice

notice w[illegible]n some of the house, of the day appointed for their ta[illegible]ng of it, and if they shall not come and take it at that time, they may be returned for refusers of it.

7. That the Ministers and Church-wardens of the sev[illegible]l Parishes, shall within twenty dayes after their receipt o[illegible]he said Copies of the Vow and Covenant, make a tr[illegible] Certificate of the names of all such within their Par[illegible]es as do not take it, unto such person as shall be a[illegible]pointed for that purpose, who shall speedily return[illegible]m unto the Deputie-Lieutenants, or Commit[illegible]of Parliament in that County, or any three of them, together with the names of all such Ministers as do not send in their Certificates within the twenty dayes as aforesaid. Whereof the said Deputie-Lieutenants or Committees are to make Duplicats, keeping one part with them, and returning the other sealed unto the Clerk of the House of Commons.

8. That the said Deputy-Lieutenants and Committees of Parliament, or some of them, do forthwith disarm, or cause to be disarmed, all those that shall not take the said Vow and Covenant. And if it can be proved by any one witnesse that they had in their custodie any Arms whatsoever, at the time of the making of this Covenant, or at any time since, which they shall not then deliver unto those appointed for to seize the same, then they shall be forthwith commiteed to prison, without Bayl or Main-prize.

9. That no Souldiers entertained shall receive any Pay from the State, untill they have in the presence of the Commander, and some Minister, taken the Vow and Covenant.

Dit[illegible]

Die Sabbathi, 17 Junii, 1643.

IT is this day ordered by the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled, That publike Thanksgiving thorowout the whole Kingdom, for the discovery of the late Plot, shall be on Thursday come three weeks, being the thirteenth of *July* next ensuing: At which time the Covenant and Oath shall be tendered to every man in the severall Parish Churches and Chappels thorowout the Kingdom, after the Sermon or Evening Prayers shall be finished.

Hen. Elsynge, Cler. Parl. D. Com.

MERCVRIVS AVLICVS,

Communicating the Intelligence and affaires of the Court, to the reſt of the KINGDOME.

The foure and twentieth VVeeke.

K. DP. Oxford

BRITISH MUSEUM

SUNDAY. *June* 11.

IT was advertiſed this day, that *Dunſter* Caſtle, belonging to Maſter *Lutterell*, a place by reaſon of the ſtrength and ſituation conceived to be almoſt impregnable, was yeilded up unto the Lord Marqueſſe of *Hertford* for the uſe of His Majeſtie, aſſoone as he had ſettled his affaires in *Bridgewater*. And that the good ſucceſſe which had befallen His Majeſtie in thoſe parts, by the taking of *Taunton*, *Bridgewater*, and the fore-ſaid Caſtle, had ſo increaſed His Majeſties power and reputation in the Weſt, that the Army under the command of the ſaid Lord Marqueſſe and Sir *Ralph Hopton*, was confidently ſaid to amount to 15000 men, 40 peece of Ordinance, with Armes and Ammunition proportionable.

There came advertiſement alſo this day, that thoſe ſhips which are appointed by the two Houſes to ly betwixt *Cheſter* and *Dublin* are ſo farre from aſſiſting the diſtreſſed Proteſtants in *Ireland*, that they are turned abſolute Pyrates, and rob all people that offer to bring releife to His Majeſties poore Subjects there, who are now allmoſt loſt for want of ſupply, which is kept from them on purpoſe to maintaine this wicked Rebellion here in *England*; and